

Minutes of Co-operative Energy Ltd Board meeting 5 May 1997, Maritime Union of Australia, 46 Ireland Street, West Melbourne

PRESENT: Graeme Charles, Bill McPherson, John Dick, Vern Hughes, Roger Lamb and David Griffiths

APOLOGY: Tony Gill

The Next 12 Months

Graeme Charles said that the focus of the meeting was the next 12 months for Co-operative Energy Ltd - as suggested by Vern Hughes at the last meeting.

David Griffiths reported on the Scoping Study being undertaken for the Electric Industry Co-operative TaskForce:

- A second meeting of the TaskForce was being organised.
- About nine questionnaires were outstanding from co-operatives.
- The Scoping Study would identify all those co-operatives who were contestable from July 1998.
- Co-operative Energy Ltd would act as a broker for co-operatives and their members.
- The retailing, generation and distribution options were not feasible at this point of time.
- The TaskForce would be asked to advise on a number of issues to be included in the Scoping Study.

First, to approve the preparation of a Memorandum of Agreement to be signed by co-operatives who were part of a buying group. The Co-operative Federation of Victoria Ltd could fund Corrs to prepare the Memorandum of Agreement.

Second, to discuss the desirability of strategic alliances with other organisations who were not co-operatives.

Third, the desirability of a brand name such as Co-opPower.

Fourth, the importance of information and education to electric consumers.

Vern Hughes queried the use of the brand name Co-opPower when Co-operative Energy Ltd could use the brand name Co-operative Energy.

Membership Recruitment Committee

It was agreed that Co-operative Energy Ltd had agreed to pursue individual and organisational membership and that this was not confined to co-operatives.

In the discussion that followed it was agreed that the Membership Recruitment Committee should meet to develop the recruitment strategy and the information kit:

11.00 am

12 May 1997

171 Collins Street

Melbourne

It was noted that the Committee's members were David Griffiths and Bill McPherson with a co-opted non-member, Gavan Sheehan. Vern Hughes also said he would attend the meeting.

Annual Subscription

The following resolution was adopted:

Resolved that the annual subscription be set at \$50 for individuals and \$200 for co-operatives and other organisations.

It was noted that income for Co-operative Energy Ltd would be performance based - fees for services provided to members and based on power bill savings.

cooperativen-l

David Griffiths reported that cooperativen-l had been established. He noted that two Board members had subscribed - Bill McPherson and Graeme Charles. He said he was puzzled that another Board director and a member with access to email had not subscribed - John Dick and Roger Lamb.

Copies of an email letter of 2 May 1997 from InReference Inc (Sunnyvale, California, USA) was circulated - requesting permission to archive cooperativen-l.

Esperance

Graeme Charles reported that there were difficulties in the negotiations with Esperance because of the pre-emptive behavior of Western Power.

It was agreed that Graeme Charles would pursue the co-operative option workshop for Esperance.

It was agreed that contact would be made with John Booth, Secretary, Co-operative Federation of WA Ltd, and PIBA, which was owned by the RABO Bank (Holland), to discuss alternative financing options.

School Energy Audits

Graeme Charles reported that he was exploring the options for school energy audits and he requested that the Secretary provide information on school energy audits and that this be billed to BARA.

Rural Electrification Magazine

David Griffiths circulated the following article from the Rural Electrification Magazine (May 1997, pp18-22):
Vanvig, John "We're Local"

NEXT MEETING: 10.30 am 5 June 1997, Maritime Union of Australia, 46 Ireland Street, West Melbourne

 5/6/97